



F-1 Tax Filing Information

International students are required to file tax returns whether they have worked in the US or not.

Students who were employed must complete 3 forms:

Form 1040NR-EZ

540NR (Short)

Form 8843

If you earned income from on-campus work, OPT employment, or a scholarship, you must file state and federal taxes as required by US law. Payment of and/or refunds of taxes will be based on your total income as indicated on the W-2 that you should have received from Saddleback College, OR your OPT employer.

1040NR-EZ (or 1040NR) is the Federal tax form. This form can be downloaded from the IRS website: www.irs.gov. Click on "Forms and Publications" link and then enter "1040-NR" in the Search tab to find the 1040-NR EZ form and instructions.

Form 8843 is another Federal tax form required of all students. This form can be downloaded from www.irs.gov. Click on "Forms and Publications" link and then enter "8843" and follow the instructions.

Form 540NR (Short) is the California tax form. This form can be downloaded from the State of California Franchise Tax Board website: www.ftb.ca.gov/forms/index.shtml. Enter "540NR" on the "Form Number" box and use the "short" form.

All Tax filing forms are due by April 15:

Mail the 1040NR-EZ and Form 8843 to the address provided on the 1040NR-EZ form.

Mail the 540 NR (Short) form to the address provided on the 540 NR (Short) form.

If you were not employed, follow these instructions:

Students who were not employed must complete 1 form:

Form 8843

If you are here on the F-1 visa and did not receive any income during the last calendar year, you must file Form 8843. This Form can be downloaded from the IRS website: www.irs.gov. Click on "Forms and Publications" link and then enter "8843" in the Search box. You must complete the following sections on the Form 8843: address in your country, address in the US, Part I General Information, Part III Students and then sign and date where indicated.

Form 8843 should be mailed to:

Department of Treasury, IRS Center, Austin, TX 73301-0215

By June 15

Need Assistance?

The International Student Office may not provide tax assistance. Should you need assistance filing your tax returns, you can seek the help of a qualified tax accountant or schedule an appointment with one of the FREE IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Centers. For a list of centers visit: <http://irs.treasury.gov/freetaxprep> or visit the International Office. Please make sure that the service you choose is aware of the specific regulations regarding F-1 students or foreign nationals for tax filing! This document is intended to provide you with general information regarding your tax responsibilities only! This is not to be regarded as legal advice.